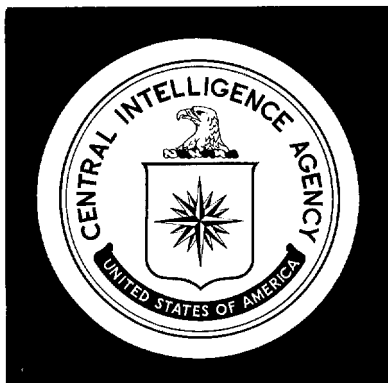


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19 April 1972

State Department review completed

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Approved For Release 2004/05/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A021700040003-4

Approved For Release 2004/05/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A021700040003-4

19 April 1972

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

25X1

ISRAEL-ROMANIA: Mrs. Meir will visit Bucharest.

25X1

Next 7 Page(s) In Document Exempt

25X1

ISRAEL-ROMANIA: PRIME MINISTER GOLDA MEIR WILL GO TO ROMANIA EARLY IN MAY AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU [REDACTED]

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ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU ISSUED THE INVITATION WHEN HE WAS IN TEL AVIV LAST WEEK. DURING HER VISIT TO BUCHAREST, MRS. MEIR WILL BE BRIEFED BY CEAUSESCU, WHO TALKED WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT IN CAIRO EARLY THIS MONTH. A US DIPLOMAT IN BEIRUT WAS TOLD BY THE ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR THAT SADAT SUGGESTED TO CEAUSESCU THAT HE SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ISRAEL TO CONVEY EGYPTIAN VIEWS ON THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION TO THE ISRAELIS. AN OFFICIAL IN THE ISRAELI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT MACOVESCU'S PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH MRS. MEIR WAS CONFINED TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE INVITATION.

MRS. MEIR PROBABLY WELCOMES AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECONFIRM ISRAEL'S TIES WITH THE ONLY EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST STATE THAT DID NOT BREAK RELATIONS IN 1967. THE ISRAELIS MAY ALSO SEE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CAPITALIZE ON THE ROMANIAN INVITATION TO OFFSET THE IMAGE OF INFLEXIBILITY RESULTING FROM THE APPARENT ISRAELI DISINCLINATION TO REVIVE THE JARRING MISSION. THE CHANCES OF A GENUINE RELAXATION IN THE TOUGH ISRAELI STANCE WITH RESPECT TO AN ULTIMATE PEACE SETTLEMENT PRIOR TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO MOSCOW, HOWEVER, ARE VIRTUALLY NIL. [REDACTED]

25X1

19 Apr 72

Central Intelligence Bulletin

6

25X1

Next 5 Page(s) In Document Exempt